

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 MCT-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /089 W
-----140809Z 128629 /12

P R 131507Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 597
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 2084

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SW, IS
SUBJECT: PLO REPRESENTATIVE'S VISIT TO STOCKHOLM ENDS ABRUPTLY

REF: (A) REYKJAVIK 588 (NOTAL), (B) STOCKHOLM 1861 (NOTAL)

1. VISIT TO STOCKHOLM OF PLO "HEAD OF POLITICAL
DEPARTMENT" FAROUK KADDOUMI, PLANNED FROM MAY 11 TO
MAY 14, ENDED SUDDENLY WHEN KADDOUMI ANNOUNCED THAT HE
HAD TO ATTEND AN IMPORTANT MEETING IN DAMASCUS AND LEFT
SWEDEN EARLY MAY 13. KADDOUMI HAD BEEN SCHEDULED TO
GIVE A LECTURE MAY 13 AT THE SWEDISH FOREIGN POLICY
INSTITUTE BEFORE A SELECT AUDIENCE, AND HIS ABRUPT
CANCELLATION RUFFLED SOME FEATHERS. KADDOUMI DID HAVE
TIME HOWEVER TO MEET WITH SWEDISH MFA OFFICIALS AND
SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADER PALME, AND TO ATTEND A LARGE
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RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE ARAB MISSIONS.

2. MFA OFFICIAL INVOLVED IN KADDOUMI'S VISIT TOLD
EMBASSY OFFICER THAT PLO HAD ATTEMPTED TO ARRANGE TALKS
FOR HIM WITH FOREIGN MINISTER SODER, BUT THAT GOS
HAD INSISTED THAT LEVEL OF CONTACT REMAIN UNCHANGED
FROM LAST YEAR, I.E. AT POLITICAL DIRECTOR LEVEL.

KADDOUMI THEREUPON REFUSED TO COME TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, SO MFA POLITICAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR LEIFLAND AND TWO OFFICERS MET THE KADDOUMI PARTY FOR LUNCH.

3. KADDOUMI RESOLUTELY DENIED VERACITY OF REPORTS FROM MOSCOW THAT PLO IS READY TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL IN RETURN FOR ISRAELI ACCEPTANCE OF A PALESTINIAN HOMELAND. HE ADDED, ACCORDING TO MFA OFFICIAL, THAT PLO COULD RECOGNIZE ISRAEL IF THE ISRAELIS WOULD AGREE TO WITHDRAW TO THE 1947 BOUNDARIES.

4. ON THE PROSPECTS FOR A GENEVA CONFERENCE, KADDOUMI ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE TIME IS RIGHT, BUT DOUBTED THAT IT WOULD COME OFF DUE TO US AND SOVIET INABILITY TO "CREATE THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS," WHICH HE DID NOT DEFINE. IF A CONFERENCE CANNOT BE ARRANGED, KADDOUMI CONTINUED, THEN OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO THE PROCESS (HE MENTIONED FRANCE) AND THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL SHOULD LAY OUT NEW GUIDELINES SIMILAR TO THOSE VETOED BY THE US LAST FEBRUARY.

5. IN ANY EVENT, ACCORDING TO MFA OFFICIAL, KADDOUMI SAW THE PLO AS A LONG-TERM WINNER. IF THE CONFERENCE COMES ABOUT WITH PLO ATTENDANCE, IT WILL BE CONSIDERED A VICTORY. IF NO CONFERENCE OCCURS, OR IF IT FAILS, THE ARAB NATIONS WILL BE RADICALIZED TO THE PLO'S ADVANTAGE. AND IF THERE IS A WAR, WHICH KADDOUMI APPARENTLY ACKNOWLEDGED WOULD RESULT IN ISRAELI MILITARY VICTORY, THE PLO WOULD NONETHELESS BE THE POLITICAL CONFIDENTIAL

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VICTOR, IN HIS OPINION.

6. KADDOUMI NOTED THAT THE NEW PLO PROGRAM CALLS FOR CONTACTS WITH "DEMOCRATIC AND PROGRESSIVE JEWISH FORCES," WHICH HE DEFINED FOR THE SWEDES AS THOSE WHO RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIANS TO HAVE A STATE IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA. THE FIRST EXAMPLE OF SUCH CONTACT IS THE RECENT MEETING BETWEEN A PLO DELEGATION AND MEMBERS OF ISRAELI COMMUNIST PARTY IN PRAGUE, WHICH WAS OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED BY THE PLO. IN THE FUTURE THE PLO WILL ATTEMPT TO ESTABLISH CONTACTS WITH OTHER "PROGRESSIVE GROUPS" IN ISRAEL.

7. COMMENT: KADDOUMI'S ABRUPT CANCELLATION OF HIS LECTURE GREATLY IRRITATED THE FOREIGN POLICY INSTITUTE, WHICH HAD GONE TO A GREAT DEAL OF TROUBLE ARRANGING HIS TALK. MFA OFFICIAL THOUGHT KADDOUMI WOULD NOT BE INVITED TO SPEAK THERE AGAIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE. MFA OFFICIAL NOTED THAT KADDOUMI IS AN ASTUTE AND

CLEVER POLITICIAN, ADDING IN PASSING THAT THE CASE
IS QUITE DIFFERENT WITH THE LOCAL PLO REPRESENTATIVE,
KALOTI (REFTELS). KADDOUMI APPARENTLY LEFT STOCKHOLM
TO ATTEND TALKS IN DAMASCUS IN PREPARATION FOR AN
UPCOMING "ISLAMIC SUMMIT" IN TRIPOLI.
PERRY

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Message Attributes

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